

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TOKYO 18425 160235Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 EB-07 COME-00 NSC-05 H-02 INT-05
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FEA-01 OES-06 TRSE-00 /058 W
----- 020620 /71

R 160200Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4220
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

UNCLAS TOKYO 18425

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, ID, JA
SUBJECT: CARBON BLACK SALES

REF: STATE 289628; JAKARTA 15419

SUMMARY. INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO US DOES NOT APPEAR TO
INDICATE THAT JAPAN IS CORNERING MARKET FOR INDONESIAN CARBON
BLACK. IMPORTS FROM INDONESIA CEASED IN MID 1976, WITH
SUBSTITUTES BEING IMPORTED FROM WEST GERMANY. END SUMMARY.

1. A MAJOR JAPANESE TRADING COMPANY, WHICH STATES THAT IT
HAD BEEN THE EXCLUSIVE SALES AGENT IN JAPAN FOR PERTAMINA'S
INDOTEX CARBON BLACK, TOLD THE EMBASSY THAT INDONESIA
DISCONTINUED EXPORTS OF INDOTEX CARBON BLACK AROUND THE MIDDLE
OF 1976. PRIOR TO THAT, IMPORTS FROM INDONESIA HAD BEEN
SPORADIC, AND VARIED CONSIDERABLY IN PUANTITY (E.G. IN DEC
1975 - 119 TONS; JAN 1976 - NONE; JUNE 1976 - 55 TONS). SINCE
JULY 1976, SHIPMENTS HAVE BEEN MINOR, AND TO COMPLETE PREVIOUS
ORDERS ONLY. THE TRADING COMPANY HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT
PERTAMINA HAD CUT BACK ITS CARBON BLACK OUTPUT TO 100
METRIC TONS PER MONTHS, DOWN FROM 250 METRIC TONS PER
MONTHS, AND THAT ALL PRODUCTION WAS NOW GOING TO
DOMESTIC USE. THE REASON FOR THE CUTBACK WAS NOT CLEAR,
BUT IT WAS THOUGHT TO BE DUE TO A PERTAMINA DECISION TO
USE THE NATURAL GAS FOR OIL EXTRACTION, RATHER THAN FOR
PROCESSING INTO CARBON BLACK.

2. PREVIOUS PURCHASES OF INDOTEX WERE FOR USE SOLELY
IN JAPAN AND WERE MADE THROUGH THE SID RICHARDSON CARBON
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 TOKYO 18425 160235Z

BLACK COMPANY OF FT WORTH, TEXAS. AS A RESULT OF THE

CUT-OFF OF SUPPLIES FROM INDONESIA, JAPANESE ARE SUBSTITUTING OTHER MATERIALS, INCLUDING A QTE CK-3 UNQTE BRAND, IMPORTED FROM DE GUSSA AG, OF FRANKFROT, FRG. IN QUALITY, CK-3 IS SAID TO BE SIMILAR TO INDOTEX IN LOW SULPHUR AND CHLORINE CONTENT. (IN JAPAN, INDOTEX HAD BEEN USED FOR VINYL COVERINGS FOR ELECTRICAL CABLES AND WIRES, SPECIALTY STEELS, AND ELECTRICAL CAPACITORS.) THE DECLINE IN JAPANESE IMPORTS FROM INDONESIA CORRESPONDS ROUGHLY TO INCREASES IN THOSE FROM THE FRG; AUGUST 1976 - 46 TONS; SEPT 1976 - 81 TONS, WHEN PREVIOUS MONTHLY TOTALS RANGED BETWEEN 12 AND 30 TONS.

3. ALTHOUGH WE REALIZE THAT CARBON BLACK HAS MANY USES, AND THUS OVERALL TOTALS MAY NOT BE PARTICULARLY ILLUMINATING, THE FOLLOWING MAY BE OF GENERAL INTEREST. JAPAN'S DOMESTIC PRODUCTION OF CARBON BLACK AVERAGES OVER 30,000 METRIC TONS PER MONTH. IMPORTS AVERAGE ONE TO TWO PERCENT OF THIS. IMPORTS FROM INDONESIA AVERAGED 11 PERCENT TO TOTAL IMPORTS IN 1975, AND ONLY 5 PERCENT THROUGH SEPT 1976. IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. AVERAGED TEN TIMES THOSE FROM INDONESIA IN 1976.
HODGSON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SALES, POLICIES, CARBON
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TOKYO18425
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760462-0619
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761235/aaaabeer.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 289628, 76 JAKARTA 15419
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: schwenja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <25 AUG 2004 by schwenja>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CARBON BLACK SALES
TAGS: ETRD, ID, JA, PERTAMINA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006